

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 245339 ACTION OTTAWA 15 OCT 75

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, CA

SUBJECT: JOINT US-CANADIAN STUDY OF NORTH AMERICAN AUTO
INDUSTRY

1. ON CANADIAN INITIATIVE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
GLITMAN MET WITH DOUG WADDELL FIRST SECRETARY OF CANADIAN
EMBASSY ON OCT. 10 TO DISCUSS CANADIAN PROPOSAL TO MOVE
AHEAD WITH A JOINT US-CANADIAN EXAMINATION OF THE NORTH
AMERICAN AUTO INDUSTRY.

2. WADDELL REGRETTED THAT OWING TO THE SHIFT IN MINISTERIAL
RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE GOC IN EARLY OCTOBER, MINISTER
GILLESPIE WAS NOT ABLE TO PURSUE THE PROPOSAL TO UNDERTAKE
A JOINT STUDY OF THE AUTO INDUSTRY. HE WAS NOW INSTRUCTED
TO GET OUR INITIAL IDEAS ON THE PROPOSAL. REFERRING TO A
GHERSON LETTER (POUCHED) TO GLITMAN ON THE PROPOSED
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PAGE 02 STATE 245339

GILLESPIE VISIT, WADDELL ASKED WHETHER THE US COULD SUPPORT

THE PROPOSAL AND WHETHER WE COULD MOVE AHEAD PROMPTLY WITH THE EXAMINATION. NOTING THE FORD-TRUDEAU AGREEMENT IN DEC. '74 TO DO SUCH A STUDY, GLITMAN ASSURED WADDELL THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO MOVE AHEAD IN A TIMELY FASHION. HE SOUGHT, HOWEVER, CLARIFICATION OF A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS, PARTICULARLY ON THE PROCEDURES CANADA HAS IN MIND FOR PROCEEDING. FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD EACH SIDE PREPARE A SEPARATE PAPER ON EACH AGENDA ITEM WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT ONE FINAL PAPER? IN NOTING THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE STUDY OUTLINED IN THE GHERSON LETTER SEEMED APPROPRIATE, GLITMAN STATED WE HOPED TO BENEFIT FROM THE US ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL STUDY (DUE AT YEAR'S END) ON THE US AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY WHICH CONSIDERS ENERGY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY FACTORS. HE ADDED THAT THE US MAY WANT TO ADD ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO THE AGENDA BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THAT STUDY.

3. GLITMAN NOTED NEXT STEP IS UP TO CANADIANS AND WE WOULD WAIT TO HEAR FROM THEM RE WORKING OUT MORE DETAILED TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PROCEDURES.

4. WADDELL APPEARED PLEASED WITH THE US RESPONSE AND SAID HE WOULD REPORT ON THE ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL STUDY AS WELL AND ATTEMPT TO GET MORE DETAILED INFORMATION FROM THE GOC ON HOW IT BELIEVES THE STUDY SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT.

5. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS SET OUT IN GHERSON'S LETTER ARE AS FOLLOWS: (A) THE SITUATION IN THE NORTH AMERICAN AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY AND THE PROSPECTS; (B) THE CHANGES INVOLVED IN RESPONDING TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR A SAVING ON ENERGY IN TERMS OF FUEL CONSUMPTION EFFICIENCY; AND (C) THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS FOR THE STRUCTURE OF THE CANADIAN AND USA INDUSTRIES RESPECTIVELY. KISSINGER

UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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